



The Assistant Secretary of Defense
for Reserve Affairs

Statement of Intent



Dennis McCarthy

Purpose:

Set the conditions for a sustainable, seamlessly integrated and complementary total force.

Method:

Proactively deliver credible advice and information about the capabilities of the reserve components and;

Develop the policies and resources necessary to fully exploit those capabilities.

- OSD – RA “sets the conditions” because the integration of the force must be done by the individual armed services.
- “Seamlessly integrated” and “complementary” are characteristics of a reserve force that is employed with confidence to augment and reinforce the active component in every facet of the national security strategy. These characteristics imply an absence of friction, and a mutually supporting force structure.
- A “total force” is the combination of active and reserve components that service chiefs willingly provide, and that unified commanders effectively use to its full capability.
- “Delivering credible advice and information” requires fidelity to fact, and a humility that avoids boastfulness and over-promising.
- “Resources” include modern and well-positioned equipment and facilities, and the assets necessary for a force that is trained for both irregular and conventional warfare before mobilization and deployment.
- “Exploit” RC capabilities means “to take full advantage” of them. In business, it would mean a high return on investment.

End State:

Our success will be measured by the degree to which we have advanced a culture of mutual appreciation and confidence in both the active and reserve components.